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REMARKS

Applicant has studied the Office Action dated September 30, 2004 and has made amendments to the claims. It is submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 21-40 have been canceled without prejudice. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In response to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Applicant elects for continued prosecution of the Group I claims (i.e., claims 1-20). To advance the prosecution of the application, all other previously-pending claims (i.e., claims 21-40) have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant expressly reserves the right to later file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims if this restriction requirement is not later withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 28, 2004

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